UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1996/378
28 May 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 22 MAY 1996 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA

I am writing on behalf of the members of the Security Council about the present situation in Angola. The members of the Council were pleased to learn of progress towards the implementation of the Lusaka Protocol, including the passage of the amnesty law, the progress made in quartering the rapid reaction police and the return to barracks of the Angolan armed forces. However, they wish to express their concern at the slow pace of the peace process and the fact that some of the troop movements appear to be only tactical redeployments.

The members of the Security Council are also concerned that the military talks on the modalities for the integration of troops of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) into the Angolan armed forces were not concluded on 15 May 1996 in accordance with the timetable agreed by all parties on the Joint Commission earlier this month. They understand that progress has been achieved in talks between the senior military leaders of the Government and UNITA in recent days. They urge you to resolve the remaining military issues quickly. The members of the Council are concerned that the preparations by the Government of Angola for receiving UNITA troops into the Angolan armed forces might not be sufficiently advanced to complete integration of the armed forces by June 1996, as agreed in Libreville. They urge you to take all necessary steps to ensure that your delegates successfully conclude the military talks immediately and without further delay.

Finally, the members of the Council hope to see progress soon on forming a Government of unity and national reconciliation as well as on plans to disarm the civilian population, and urge you to make every effort in this context.

(Signed) QIN Huasun
President of the Security Council

96-13253 (E) 280596 290596